

Applicants respectfully refrain from so amending Claims 6 and 8; however have added the content of Claim 6 to independent Claims 14 and 15 and incorporated the content of Claim 8 into Claims 17 and 18.

In response to the objection to Claim 16, Applicants respectfully believe the cancellation of Claim 16 renders the objection moot. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to Claim 16.

On the merits, the Office Action rejected Claims 16 and 9-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-6 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,236,440. Applicants respectfully submit that the cancellation of Claims 9-13 and 16 renders this rejection moot. Withdrawal of the § 101 rejection is respectfully requested.

Further on the merits, the Office Action rejected Claims 3-5, 7, 15, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Lu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,764,324; hereinafter "Lu"). The Office Action also rejected Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Bohmer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,052,160; hereinafter "Bohmer"). The Office Action also rejected Claims 9-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lu as applied to Claim 16 above. Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are patentable for at least the following reasons:

Applicants Claim 15 recites: "[a] display device comprising a first substrate having at least one transparent, first picture electrode of a first material of a first work function, a second substrate comprising at least one second picture electrode of a second material of a second work function different from said first work function, which second picture electrode, jointly with the one picture electrode on the first substrate and an intermediate opto-electronic material defines a pixel, and means for supplying electric voltages to the picture electrodes, characterized in that at least one of the picture electrodes is coated with at least a layer of conducting material, such that the difference in the work functions of the first and second materials is decreased, and further characterized in that the first picture electrode is coated with a layer comprising at least a thin layer of the material of the second picture electrode."

As stated in the Office Action, Lu fails to recite or suggest the first picture electrode being coated with a layer of at least a thin layer of the material of the second picture electrode. For example, Lu does not disclose putting an Al layer on the ITO electrode. Consequently, Claim 15 is believed patentable over Lu for at least this reason.

Claim 14 recites a display device with channel electrodes substantially corresponding to Claim 15 and is believed patentable for at least the same reasons. As stated in the Office Action,

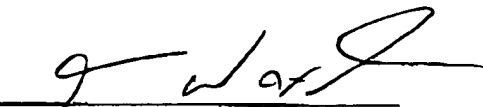
"[t]he prior art of record... does not disclose putting an Al layer on the ITO electrode..." Consequently, Claim 14 is now believed patentable over Bohmer. Applicants respectfully request that the § 102(e) rejection of Claim 14 as being anticipated by Bohmer be withdrawn.

Claims 3-5 and 7 depend from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are believed patentable for at least the same reasons. In addition, Applicants respectfully believe Claims 3-5 and 7 to be independently patentable and request separate consideration of each claim.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned agent may be reached by telephone at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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